State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1997

400A0215

HOUSE BILL NO. 1038

Introduced by: The Committee on Commerce at the request of the Department of Labor

- 1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to repeal certain reporting requirements of workers'
- 2 compensation insurance carriers.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:
- 4 Section 1. That § 58-20-21 be amended to read as follows:
- 5 58-20-21. Any insurer writing workers' compensation insurance in this state shall offer to
- 6 conduct or contract for annual workplace safety review services, including review reports with
- 7 written recommendations for improved safety procedures, to each of its insureds whose policy
- 8 premium is five thousand dollars or more. A copy of the written recommendations shall be sent
- 9 by the insurance company to the Department of Labor annually. No written recommendation
- 10 prepared by an insurer pursuant to this section is subject to discovery or disclosure under chapter
- 11 15-6 or any other provision of law or admissible as evidence in any action of any kind in any
- 12 court or arbitration forum. However, the recommendation may be disclosed to a subsequent
- insurer of the employer. Compliance with this section does not constitute an undertaking by an
- insurer to supplant any responsibility its insured may otherwise have for workplace safety. Any
- employer subject to this section shall have workplace safety reviews conducted by his the

- 2 - HB 1038

- 1 <u>employer's</u> insurer at least once every three years. If an insurer makes a written recommendation
- 2 to correct a safety deficiency pursuant to § 58-20-21, including failure to post safety posters as
- 3 required by § 62-2-11, and it has not been corrected at the time of a subsequent safety review,
- 4 the insured shall be subject to an appropriate increase in premium as determined by the insurer
- 5 subject to the approval of the director. The insurer is not responsible for inspecting for
- 6 compliance with federal or state safety laws or regulations.